[3rd September 1928

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The final report of the Committee has not yet been received. So I cannot say definitely at what stage the progress of the committee is."

Local Boards

Nominations to taluk boards in North Arcot district.

* 42 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many nominated seats fell vacant in the several taluk boards in the North Arcot district at the end of March 1928 ;

(b) the names of persons nominated by the District Board President to these vacancies with the caste of such nominees ;

(c) the number of members in each taluk board in North Arcot district castewar previous to these nominations ;

(d) whether as a result of the nominations (after March 1928) any seats usually allotted to and generally reserved for minority interests such as Christians, Adi-Dravidas and Mussalmans were filled up by persons not belonging to such minority interests or castes ;

(e) whether the hon. Minister had occasion to warn the District Board President against such misuse of his power of nomination to the detriment of minority interests ;

(f) whether the District Board President continued to persist in such misuse of his power of nomination even after such warning ; and

(g) what is the action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) to (d) & (f) The Government have called for the information.

(e) Yes.

(g) The question will be considered on receipt of the information called for.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" With reference to the answer given to clause (a) will the Government be pleased to state whether they will get information only for North Arcot district or for other districts also ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The question refers only to North Arcot district."

Overhauling of the Bantwal-Charmadi road.

* 43 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government decided to treat the Bantwal-Charmadi road in South Kanara as a trunk or imperial road ;

(b) whether the District Board, South Kanara, asked Government to sanction any and if so, what amount for overhauling the road ; and

(c) whether any amount will be sanctioned or is to be provided for ?

A.—(a) The road has been classified as a trunk road with effect from 1928–29.

(b) The President, District Board, South Kanara, applied for a special grant of Rs. 15,000 to re-metal and repair the damaged portions of the road.

(c) The President has been asked to include the work in his application for grants for 1929–30.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :— " May I ask whether the President, District Board of South Kanara, did not say that overhauling the Bantwal-Charmadi road was a very urgent necessity ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The President, District Board, South Kanara, submitted his estimate but it was too late when it was received and it was impossible to include that item in 1928–29 budget. The President has again been asked to submit his proposal and it will be included in 1929–30 budget."

Medical

Working hours of the General Hospital, Madras.

*44 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have obtained the information called for with reference to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 1842 answered on 30th March 1928, regarding the working hours of the General Hospital, Madras; and

(b) if so, whether they will be pleased to place it on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The information is laid on the table. [a]

Dr B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Public Health whether all the hospitals excepting the General Hospital in the Madras City work from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Yes."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I ask whether the hon. the Minister for Public Health thinks that the patients have rest in the General Hospital ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That is a matter which the hon. Member knows better than myself."

Public Health

Alleged scarcity of drinking water in North Arcot district.

* 45 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great scarcity of even drinking water in many places in North Arcot district;

(b) whether it is a fact that the local boards and municipalities have been indifferent in the matter of rendering any help to the suffering people; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a special report on the present situation and sanction special urgent works wherever possible?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) The Government have called for a report in the matter.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 108 infra.